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Former Delaware Business Owner Convicted of Failure to Pay State Taxes

Wilmington – The former owner of a local transportation company pled guilty today in New Castle County Superior Court to two criminal charges for failing to pay more than \$400,000 in state withholding and unemployment taxes, Attorney General Beau Biden announced today.

Kristin L. Aulenbach, age 29, of Pocopson, PA, entered the pre-indictment plea before Judge Peggy L. Ableman to one felony count of failure to pay withholding taxes to the Delaware Division of Revenue and one misdemeanor count of failure to pay unemployment taxes to the Delaware Department of Labor. Aulenbach was the former president of Eagle Transportation Services, a luxury chauffeur service formerly based in New Castle, Delaware. In pleading guilty, Aulenbach admitted that Eagle Transportation failed to pay to the State of Delaware \$440,000 between October, 2005 and March, 2011. \$270,000 of the total represented income taxes that the company withheld from employee paychecks but failed to pay to the Division of Revenue. Eagle Transportation Services is no longer in business.

The criminal charges stem from an investigation initiated by the Delaware Department of Finance, Division of Revenue Criminal Investigation Unit and the Delaware Department of Labor, Division of Unemployment Insurance during an ongoing review of tax records. When the investigation revealed credible evidence of the violations the agencies referred the case to the Attorney General's office for criminal prosecution.

Judge Ableman ordered a pre-sentence investigation to be conducted. Aulenbach faces up to five years in prison, restitution, and fines. A sentencing date has not been set.

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